



# LAI SemiQ 2026 East Coast Tour: Land Use & History (1776-2026)

## Join LAI Baltimore for Stage Two of the SemiQ East Coast Tour!

Thursday, March 19, 2026  
Annapolis, MD



### Sponsors

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# LAI SemiQ 2026 East Coast Tour: Land Use & History (1776-2026)

Lambda Alpha International’s North American East Region Chapters are hosting special, limited availability, events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence – also known as the Semi-Quincentennial, or “SemiQ.”

Each LAI chapter in the East Region is celebrating its own unique history, with a focus on land economics and the built environment. This is not a single conference, but a multi-city, multi-chapter initiative offering in-depth explorations of the history, local architecture, planning, real estate development, economic drivers, and other factors that have shaped the evolution of our nation’s history and land use in these key East Coast locations. We look forward to seeing you!

[lai.org/semi-q-2026-east-coast-tour](http://lai.org/semi-q-2026-east-coast-tour)

## Dates & Locations

## Highlights



**Thursday-Friday**  
**FEBRUARY 26-27**  
**SARASOTA, FL**

Visit Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, world’s first net-positive energy botanical garden. Mote Science Education Aquarium, with over one-million gallons of marine habitats. Sarasota Bay History Cruise.



**Thursday**  
**MARCH 19**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MD**

Tour the Maryland State House, once the U.S. Capitol. Visit the home of a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Visit the City Dock and see how the city is dealing with flooding. Tour the US Naval Academy. Learn how the city’s land use evolved. Subject to change.



**Friday**  
**MARCH 20**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**

Attend presentation by National Capital Planning Commission on Pierre L’Enfant plan. Panel on iconic buildings and design excellence. Tour of National Capitol Building with intro by Architect of the Capitol.



**Friday**  
**APRIL 17**  
**ATLANTA, GA**

Tour The Stitch and Centennial Yards. Talks on Atlanta’s evolution as sports and entertainment destination, framed by history and land use. Tour of Martin Luther King, Jr. Historic Site.



**Thursday-Friday**  
**MAY 14-15**  
**NEW YORK, NY**

Museum tour and lunch at Fraunces Tavern. Revolutionary War walking tour. Talk on 1811 Grid Plan and Erie Canal. Walking tour of historical Greenwich Village and Lower Fifth Avenue.



**Friday**  
**JUNE 12**  
**PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Learn Philly’s land development history from speakers at City Council chambers. Enjoy the panoramic view from top of City Hall. Take tour of Independence Hall and other key sites.



**Thursday-Friday**  
**JULY 23-24**  
**BOSTON, MA**

Walk along the Freedom Trail. Boston Harbor guided boat ride. Visit the Prudential Building observation tower. Guided trolley ride through Back Bay, Downtown and Seaport areas.

## Welcome!

Along with the City's Mayor and the 250th Commission, Lambda Alpha International Baltimore Chapter welcomes all of our members and guests to Annapolis. We have planned a full day of speakers, walking tours, and meals. Our aim is to provide you with insights on the history of land use in Annapolis in Revolutionary times, how it has evolved, and how this history has affected and been affected by changes in the rest of the country. We also urge you to consider attending LAI's SemiQ events in other East Coast cities.

We wish you a great day here in Annapolis, especially as the Maryland Day week of activities begin celebrating the founding of the colony of Maryland in 1634.



**Matthew L. Kimball, Esq.**

Baltimore Chapter  
President



**Tara Balfe Clifford**

Chair of Annapolis  
SemiQ Program



**Nathan S. Betnun**

LAI Regional Vice President  
North America East Region



**Craig Binning**

LAI International  
President



Greetings!

It is my honor to extend greetings on behalf of the City of Annapolis as we welcome members and guests of Lambda Alpha International for the second stage of your Semi-sesquicentennial celebration. Each year, this remarkable organization reminds us not only of the enduring impact of your work, but of the individuals who dedicate themselves to advancing excellence in the field of real estate and urban development.

Annapolis has long been a city of historic significance. As America's first peacetime capital, the place where George Washington relinquished command of the Continental Army, and the home of four signers of the Declaration of Independence, our City stands as a living testament to leadership, vision, and civic engagement. Your gathering here honors these principles and underscores the importance of knowledge, collaboration, and community in shaping our shared future.

As we come together for this event, we celebrate the achievements of Lambda Alpha International and its members, while recognizing the ongoing work that strengthens our cities and communities. Your commitment to research, education, and networking enriches our profession and contributes to the greater good.

I extend my sincere appreciation to those who organized this event and to the members and guests who traveled to Annapolis to participate. Your dedication inspires us all to continue building cities that are thoughtful, resilient, and equitable.

On behalf of the City of Annapolis, I am pleased to welcome you and pledge that we will do everything possible to make your stay both enjoyable and memorable.

Warmest regards,



Jared Littmann  
Mayor of Annapolis

**Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum**  
**84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD 21401**

- 8:30 a.m. **CHECK-IN & COFFEE**
- 9:15 a.m. **MORNING WELCOME with ANNAPOLIS MAYOR JARED LITTMANN**
- PRESENTATIONS:**
- 9:30 a.m. **History of Annapolis** by Author *Thomas Guay* and *Chris Haley*, presenter, Kunta Kinte - Alex Haley Memorial, historic settlement patterns and lives of African Americans in Annapolis.
- 10:30 a.m. **Land Use in Annapolis** by LAI member *Eric Leshinsky, AICP*, Chief of Comprehensive Planning, City of Annapolis and *Dr. Wilford Scott*, Chair, City of Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission.
- 11:30 a.m. **Annapolis City Dock** with *Eileen Fogarty*, Manager of Revitalization of Annapolis City Dock, and *Zoe Johnson*, Community Planning Officer, Naval Support Annapolis for Chesapeake Bay Restoration Goals.

## Morning Program Presenters



**Annapolis Mayor Jared Littmann**

Mayor of Annapolis, owner of K&B Ace Hardware, former Annapolis City Alderman, former environmental lawyer



**Thomas Guay**

Author of *Chesapeake Bound*, a work of historical fiction set in the uneasy years just before the American Revolution



**Dr. Wilford Scott**

Chair of Annapolis Historic District Commission, 30-year member of City of Annapolis Planning Commission, recently retired Head of Adult Programs at the National Gallery of Art



**Chris Haley**

Presenter, Kunta Kinte - Alex Haley Memorial, Director of Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives, member of several foundation boards, and nephew of Alex Haley



**Eileen Fogarty**

Manager of Revitalization of Annapolis City Dock, Chair of Land Use and Mobility Transition Team for Mayor Littmann, Director of Planning & Zoning in Annapolis and later in Alexandria, VA



**Eric Leshinsky, AICP**

Chief of Comprehensive Planning for the City of Annapolis, senior designer and planner for Design Workshop in Austin, TX



**Zoe Johnson**

Community Planning Liaison Officer responsible for resiliency planning for US Naval Academy, Environmental Protection Specialist for Federal Highway Administration

**Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum**  
84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

12:15 p.m. **LUNCH BREAK**  
Pick up provided boxed lunch

12:30 p.m. **LUNCHEON SPEAKER**  
*Elaine Rice Bachmann, State Archivist and Secretary, State House Trust*

1:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **GUIDED WALKING TOUR** from Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum to Maryland State House, the site of first peacetime capital of the country; George Washington gave up command of Continental Army here; Kunta Kinte - Alex Haley Memorial; new park and flood control work underway at the City Dock with Former Annapolis Mayor *Gavin Buckley*; and the U.S. Naval Academy established in 1845 on landfill. Tour locations subject to change.

Tours of the USNA and State House are subject to additional security regulations. REAL ID-Compliant Credentials are required for all guests ages 18 and older, and that per new Federal guidelines access to the U.S. Naval Academy is restricted to guests bearing a U.S.-issued REAL ID or U.S. passport- No electronic versions or facsimiles will be accepted by the Academy guards. *Accepted IDs include REAL ID driver's license or state ID, U.S. passport, or enhanced driver's license (MI, MN, NY, VT, WA).*

## Lunch & Tour Program Presenters



**Elaine Rice Bachmann**  
State Archivist and Commissioner of Land Patents at Maryland State Archives, and Secretary of the State House Trust



**Gavin Buckley**  
Most recent Mayor of Annapolis, restaurateur

## Guided Walking Tour



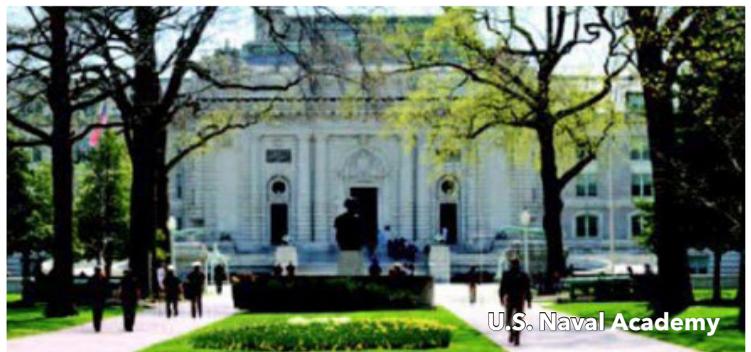
Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum



Kunta Kinte - Alex Haley Memorial



City Dock



U.S. Naval Academy

**COCKTAILS ON TERRACE** 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Paca House & Garden**  
186 Prince George Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

The **Paca House & Garden**, the home of William Paca, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Small group tour of interior. Welcome by *Karen Thiemer Brown*, CEO and President, Historic Annapolis and Farewell Poem to be recited by City of Annapolis Poet Laureate *Jefferson "Jeff" Holland*.



**Karen Thiemer Brown**  
CEO and President, Historic Annapolis, member of Annapolis Heritage Commission and past Commissioner of the Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission



**Jefferson "Jeff" Holland**  
City of Annapolis Poet Laureate and Chesapeake Troubadour

EVENING PROGRAM

**DINE AROUND DINNERS** 6:15/6:30 p.m.

SemiQ Attendees are invited to join the Planning Committee for dinner at one of two Annapolis restaurants. This will be a great opportunity to recap and discuss the day's presentations over a relaxed dinner. Reservations have been made at the restaurants listed below. Please note that the Maryland General Assembly will be in session, and Annapolis and local restaurants are expected to be busy.

In downtown Annapolis **Middleton's Tavern** hosted the nation's most revered leaders during the period following the American Revolution. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin were numbered among their prominent patrons. Or in Eastport to enjoy delectable Chesapeake Bay seafood and a beautiful waterfront view at **Carrol's Creek**.

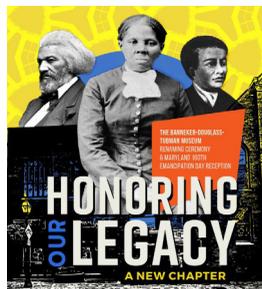
*Dinner is not included in the SemiQ ticket price.*

Any questions, please contact Nate Betnun 443-994-1941.

**MIDDLETON'S TAVERN**  
2 Market Space, Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-263-3323 | middletontavern.com

**CARROL'S CREEK**  
410 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403  
410-263-8102 | www.carrolscreek.com

In-Kind  
Sponsors



Barbara Jean Gilbert

## LAI Annapolis SemiQ Committee

Chair Tara Balfe Clifford, Susannah Bergmann, Nathan Betnun, Michael S. Cordes, Barbara Jean Gilbert, James Leanos, Caroline Varney-Alvarado

## Day-of Volunteers

Mary Ann Henderson, Grace Morris, Ina Singer

## LAI Baltimore Board

**Matthew L. Kimball, Esq.**, Chapter President  
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**Michael S. Cordes**, Immediate Past Chapter President, ColumbiaNational Real Estate Finance, LLC

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**Nicole McGlynn**, Chapter Administrator

## Connect & Get Involved

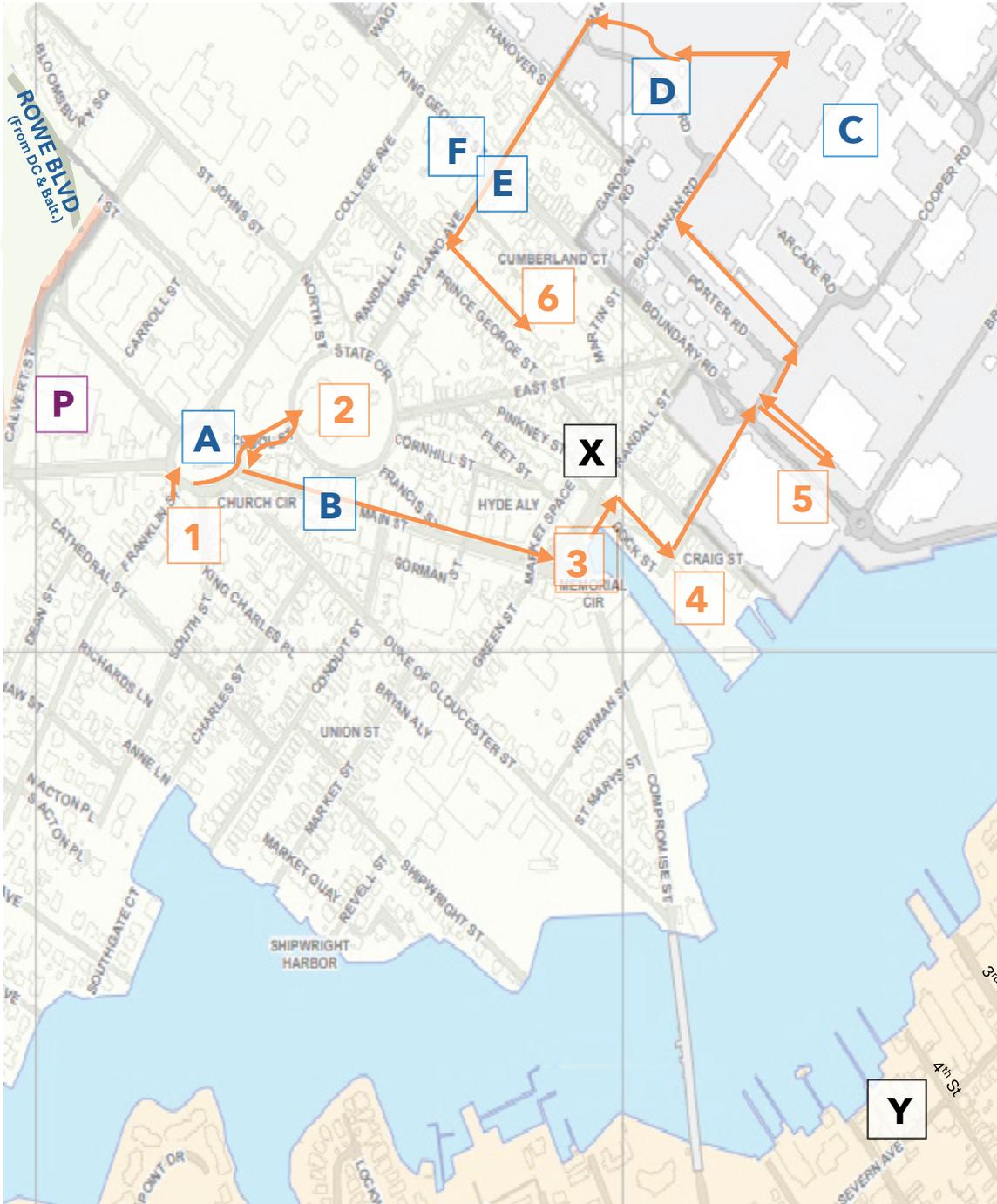
The Baltimore Chapter was formed in 1992 and its members - from business, academia and government - represent a wide range of professions dealing with some aspect of land economics.

<https://laibaltimore.org/>

Follow us: [LinkedIn](#)

- Attend our upcoming programs on April 15, May 20, June 17, September 16, October 21; July 15 Summer Outing; November 18 Annual Meeting; and salons dates to be determined.
- Share your accomplishments, projects, and news!
- Contact Chapter President Matthew Kimball: 410-262-6354 or [mkimball@himmelrichassociates.com](mailto:mkimball@himmelrichassociates.com).
- Invite guests to our programs. Nominate a prospective member.
- Visit LAI International, global programs, and Land Economic Gatherings at [www.LAI.org](http://www.LAI.org).
- Join our Chapter or LAI International Committee

# Annapolis SemiQ Walking Tour Route



## Photo credits:

[Annapolis City Dock](#)  
[Visit Maryland](#)

[Banneker - Douglass - Tubman Museum](#)  
[Visit Annapolis](#)

[Kunta Kinte - Alex Haley Memorial](#)  
[Visit Annapolis By Fine Art America](#)

Annapolis City Dock  
Rendering Annapolis Dock  
Action Committee

U.S. Naval Academy

[Paca House & Garden](#)  
[Annapolis.org](#)  
[By Kenneth Tom](#)

Annapolis, MD  
The Maryland State House  
Nathan Betnun

Atlanta, GA City Skyline  
Adobe Stock 199628246

[Boston, MA Paul Revere Statue & Old North Church](#)  
[Steeple National Park](#)  
[Service By Arlan Fonseca](#)

[New York, NY Statue Of Liberty](#)  
[National Park Service](#)

[Philadelphia, PA Independence Hall](#)  
[National Park Service](#)

Sarasota, FL City Waterfront  
Adobe Stock 430383255

[Washington, DC United States Capitol](#)  
[National Park Service](#)  
[By Architect Of The Capitol](#)

## TOUR STOPS

- 1 Banneker-Douglass-Tubman
- 2 State House
- 3 Kunta Kinte
- 4 City Dock
- 5 USNA Visitor Center
- 6 Wm. Paca House

## OTHER

- A Church Circle
- B Main Street
- C Bancroft Hall
- D USNA Chapel
- E Hammond-Harwood
- F Chase-Lloyd House

## DINE-AROUNDS

- X Middleton's
- Y Carrol's Creek

## PARKING

- P Gott's Court
- 25 Calvert Street
- Annapolis, MD 21401